

Minutes of the October 3, 2013 WLA Legislative Committee Meeting

Call to Order

Chairman Scott Barber called the meeting to order at 10:20 am. Present were Carey Hartmann, Janice Grover-Roosa, Dale Collum, Lori Phillips, Brad Matthies, Sid Stanfill, Lesley Boughton, Debbie McCarthy, Richard Landreth, Megan Bietz, Lori Clark-Erikson, Jamie Markus and Kate Mutch (via phone).

Minutes

Minutes from the last meeting were not available and were therefore not approved.

Reports:

Community colleges: Janice Grover-Roosa reported community college librarians met with Maggie Farrell, Dean of UW Libraries, in September to discuss information literacy competencies and that further discussion between the group and UW librarians would occur. She also noted a desire for better coordination between academic libraries in the state with regard to resources.

UW: Lori Phillips reported that many personnel changes have occurred in upper university administration at UW since Robert Sternberg assumed the presidency on July 1. President Sternberg has articulated a new goal for UW: to be the #1 land grant institution in the nation. Some indicators for that goal are improved access to higher education for a broader spectrum of students and more impact on Wyoming by the University.

Federal issues: Sid Stanfill noted that two issues worth watching on the federal level are the entire e-rate discussion, and what the ALA Washington Office may have to say about the elimination of school librarians by large school systems throughout the United States.

State Library: Lesley Boughton reported a general belt-tightening at the WSL due to the recent 8% budget cut, no inflationary adjustments to the budget for the past 3 biennia and the loss of LSTA funding. The good news is that no state library employees are funded with federal funds, so positions are not at risk.

Lobbyist: Marian sent a report stating that she is keeping an eye on budget cuts, changes to the state retirement system, possible changes to the public records act, and that she should have a better idea about how the legislative session will be shaping up by December 1.

Unfinished Business:

Scott noted that First Lady Carol Mead would speak at the Legislative luncheon and Lesley Boughton would introduce her. Ms. Mead has a tight schedule, so will begin her remarks at ~ 12:15 and depart by 12:45.

Scott also noted the next meeting of the legislative committee will be held in conjunction with the Legislative reception in February.

New Business:

Lori Clark-Erickson, Co-chair of the Teacher-librarian interest group, introduced Megan Bietz from Gillette, who will serve as one of the school library representatives on the legislative committee.

From the Floor:

Jamie Markus distributed a handout about the value of school librarians that will be used in various venues to educate and inform relevant stakeholders about the relationship between student success and school librarians. Carey Hartmann urged committee members to use the handout as an advocacy piece in their work.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Scott Barber at ~ 10:52 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori Phillips

October 8, 2013